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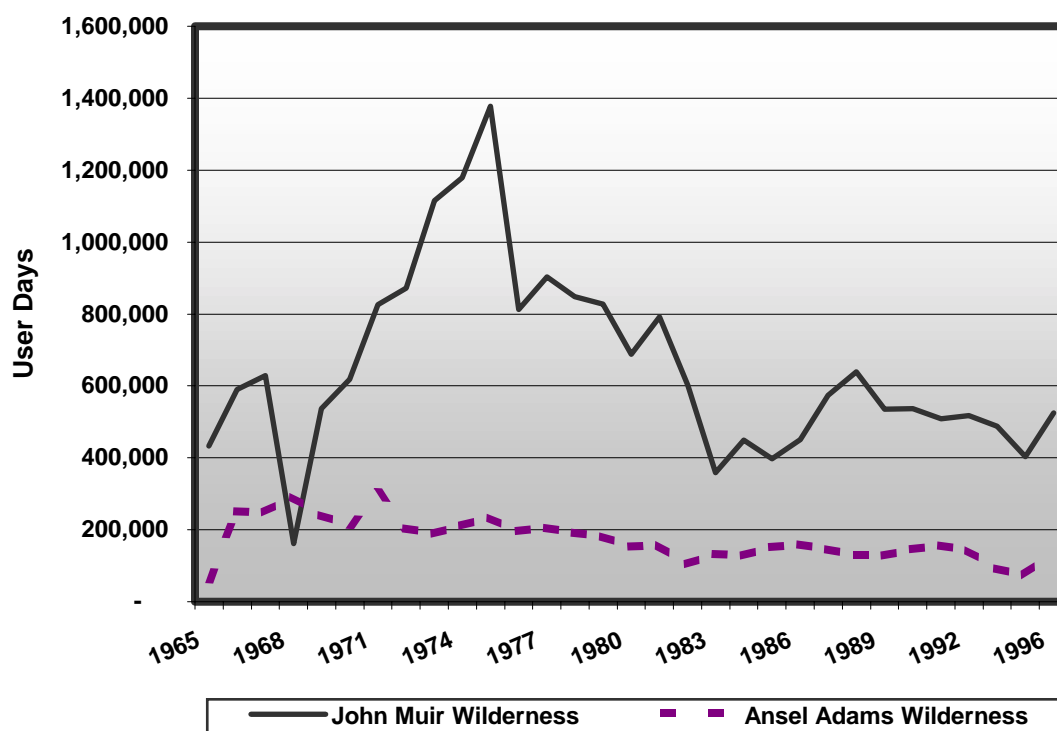
# APPENDIX I

## Wilderness Use Data

The following information is an example of data used to determine existing conditions in recreation use in the three wildernesses. This information is in no way inclusive of all the use data that exists and that was utilized to understand recreation use levels, trends, and conditions. Rather, this represents the few sets of data that were consistent through the planning area, and is provided here for reference with the FEIS. Various data sets have been compiled and data is not always consistent or collected in the same way between the two Forests, or within a Forest. Nonetheless, this provides a picture of use trends over time, and represents the best information on use available in the John Muir, Ansel Adams, and Dinkey Lakes Wildernesses. The tables and figures help to describe overall use levels, commercial use levels, use trends, demand and patterns over time.

Recreation visitor data was compiled by the Forest Service nationally up until 1996. A recreational visitor day is a 'visit' on National Forest System Land for up to a twelve hour period. Collecting RVD data was not done consistently and there was no standard protocol for Forests to gather or report this data, so it is not a very exact figure for measuring use. It is useful data however for measuring trends in recreation activities. This chart displays wilderness visitor days.

**Figure I.1. Recreation Visitor Days**



## Trends in Wilderness Overnight Use

Tables I.1 through I.5 display number of people in the wilderness on overnight visits. This data is compiled from wilderness permits ('visitor permits'). Mandatory wilderness permits were first instituted on a limited number of trails in the mid 1970's. Full implementation of quotas began after 1978, and very scattered permit data exists during this time and into the early 1980's. Permit data was used to calculate RVD's for national reporting, and with no other reporting system, each district kept record differently. For these reasons, the data is not complete. It does however, provide some insight of use over the 80's and 90's. It has only been in recent years, with the use of computer technology that data has been kept in a systematic manner.

**Table I.1.** Ansel Adams Wilderness Westside Trailheads

Trailhead	Number of People					
	1988	1989	1991	1993	1998	1999
Pineridge Trailheads	293	276	642	294	126	67
Fernandez	*	*	*	*	1,070	1,255
Walton	*	*	*	*	75	160
Isberg	*	*	*	*	684	773
Jackass/Norton	*	*	*	*	376	613
Total	293	276	642	294	2,205	2,801

*\*Data for Trailheads accessing the Ansel Adams Wilderness from the Minarets District is not available for the years of 1988, 1989, 1991, and 1993 due to their office burning down in 1994.*

**Table I.2.** John Muir Wilderness Westside Trailheads

Trailhead	Number of People					
	1988	1989	1991	1993	1998	1999
Florence	2,526	2,400	2,031	2,001	1,502	1,491
Mono Creek	1,799	1,709	1,331	1,300	648	996
Maxon	1,943	1,846	1,805	1,931	759	1,193
Crown Valley	69	64	79	124	64	83
Rancheria	200	190	200	326	278	352
Woodchuck	648	161	589	603	306	371
Bear Creek	1,526	1,450	1,166	1,186	667	822
Devil's Graveyard	958	910	871	1,049	732	819
Onion Springs	350	333	171	79	110	194
Total	10,019	9,063	8,243	8,599	5,066	6,321

**Table I.3.** Dinkey Lakes Wilderness Trailheads

Trailhead	Number of People					
	1988	1989	1991	1993	1998	1999
All Trailheads	2,146	2,039	1,086	1,947	2,011	2,542

**Table I.4.** Ansel Adams Wilderness Eastside Trailheads

Trailhead	Number of people per year, overnight visits									
	1986	1988	1989	1992	1993	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Beck Lake	274	316	249	242	N/A	232	261	111	281	238
Bloody Canyon	77	162	83	122	71	65	121	88	91	132
Deer Lake	126	N/A	N/A	106	137	83	78	114	80	185
Fern/Yost	740	N/A	33	47	12	8	7	22	4	41
Fish Creek	28	692	451	N/A	548	743	664	771	505	638
Gibbs	53	44	49	114	56	52	41	20	51	22
Glacier Canyon	401	91	43	82	76	41	73	40	52	28
High Trail (PCT)	815	1,244	1,276	1,009	1,341	1,989	1,462	1,512	1,431	1,270
John Muir Trail, North	N/A	305	366	322	409	562	500	486	187	290
Minaret Lake	528	572	454	386	364	643	562	517	552	391
Parker Creek	94	91	129	93	122	N/A	101	215	142	147
Red Cones	N/A	N/A	N/A	110	187	313	313	396	333	258
River Trail	1,272	1,169	1,516	1,287	1,585	1,639	1,975	1,423	1,587	1,398
Rush Creek	1,615	416	487	N/A	N/A	2,122	1,642	1,595	1,581	1,725
Shadow Lake	2,173	2,047	1,864	1,758	2,072	2,283	2,120	1,651	1,825	1,718
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,196</b>	<b>8,176</b>	<b>7,391</b>	<b>6,361</b>	<b>6,949</b>	<b>11,220</b>	<b>10,274</b>	<b>9,053</b>	<b>9,038</b>	<b>8,481</b>

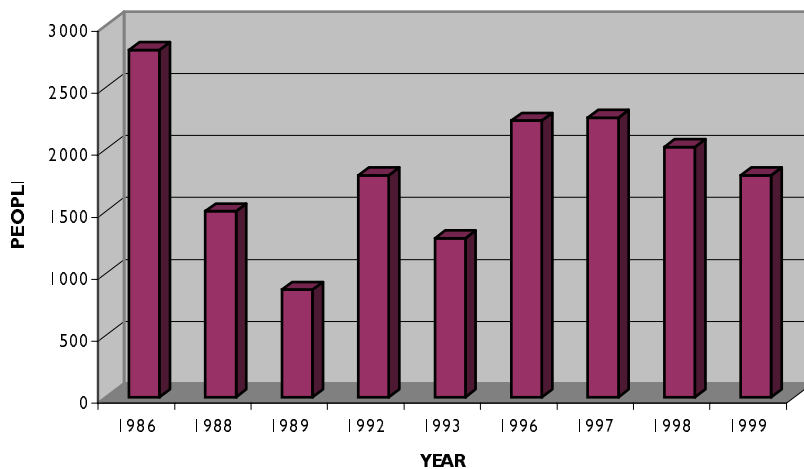
**Table I.5. John Muir Wilderness Eastside Trailheads**

Trailhead	Number of People per year (2000 data included for reference, but figures not used in plan)								
	1986	1988	1989	1993	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Baker/Green	168	323	253	250	169	134	477	107	195
Baxter Pass	256	225	119	92	213	155	120	188	95
Big Pine – NF	1,941	2,030	1,629	1,776	2,881	3,192	3,340	3,025	2,294
Big Pine – SF	408	417	291	354	654	678	184	546	417
Birch Lake	28	12	21	8	50	42	10	40	29
Bishop Pass	3,577	2,261	3,009	2,341	3,772	4,007	3,154	3,369	2,817
Convict Lake	356	584	724	386	75	398	329	417	457
Cottonwood Lakes	3,866	5,234	4,236	2,928	4,981	4,448	4,670	5,449	4,076
Duck Lake	1,753	1,824	1,799	1,781	1,919	2,012	1,253	1,861	1,426
Gable Lakes	N/A	16	24	28	25	5	20	46	19
George Creek/ Mt Williamson	63	58	40	3	38	18	1	29	22
Golden Trout Lakes	N/A	294	123	N/A	147	126	161	121	213
Hilton Lakes/Creek	342	605	1,125	1,038	1,239	1,096	1,166	867	845
Horton Lakes	379	133	188	264	292	254	285	152	241
Kearsarge Pass	3,565	4,798	3,262	2,780	4,272	3,982	3,505	4,127	2,810
Lamarck Lakes	824	650	712	673	769	836	791	812	651
Laurel Lakes	85	66	81	93	130	150	85	99	93
Little Lakes Valley	2,804	1,500	867	1,283	2,232	2,254	2,020	1,791	1,667
McGee Creek	1,056	1,002	1,012	N/A	869	917	655	764	694
Meysan Lake	N/A	361	159	149	309	366	293	367	299
Mono Pass	1,479	253	221	1,256	1,641	1,945	1,323	1,578	1,329
Mt Whitney Day Hike	N/A	N/A	6,491	N/A	7,532	11,350	13,236	14,086	9,715
Mt Whitney Overnight	7,411	10,175	12,630	3,693	8,382	8,446	9,066	9,753	8,748
North Fork Lone Pine Creek	N/A	N/A	1,194	701	2,084	1,958	1,863	2,334	1,517
Pine Creek	1,505	1,198	1,372	1,128	1,597	1,426	1,110	1,136	878
Piute Pass	2,631	2,269	2,962	2,041	2,936	2,957	2,425	2,526	2,077
Red Lake	105	92	29	60	171	150	115	127	137
Sabrina Lake	2,111	1,910	2,009	1,392	2,098	2,014	1,920	1,829	1,553
Sawmill Pass	235	275	91	81	157	158	156	98	126
Shepherd Pass	548	697	338	379	824	674	677	833	705
Taboose Pass	273	388	217	230	398	306	307	419	226
Tamarack Lakes	261	164	184	N/A	265	267	247	240	368
Treasure Lakes	489	454	N/A	493	550	545	487	499	448
Tuttle Creek	24	25	3	55	135	43	24	21	16
Tyee/George Lake	297	264	388	436	253	152	157	221	195
Valentine Lake	105	156	191	146	157	209	187	132	98
<b>Totals</b>	<b>38,945</b>	<b>40,713</b>	<b>47,994</b>	<b>28,318</b>	<b>54,216</b>	<b>57,670</b>	<b>55,819</b>	<b>60,009</b>	<b>47,496</b>

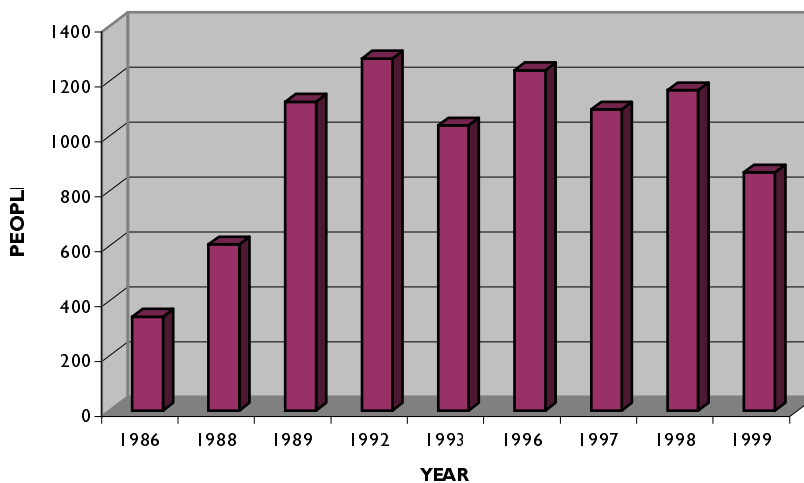
## Trends by Trailhead

The following charts display use trends by trailhead. These charts indicate that use patterns are unique by trailhead demonstrating that use trends cannot be generalized across the planning area.

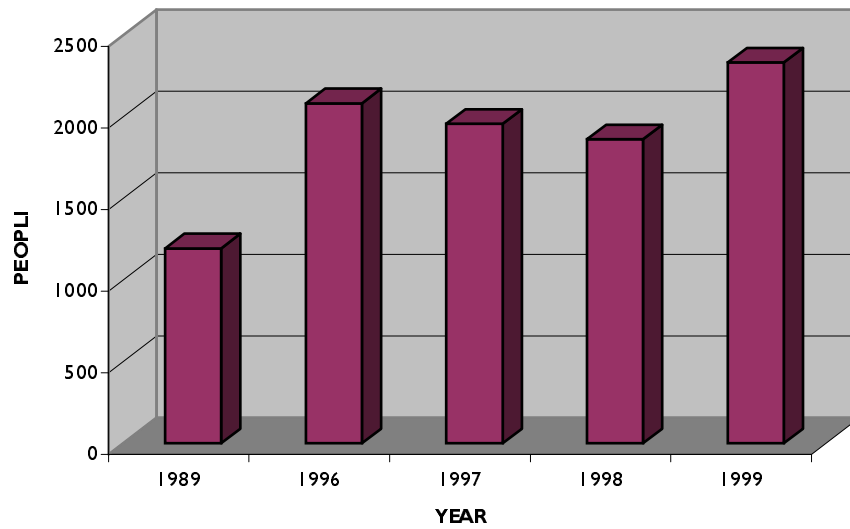
**Figure I.2. Little Lakes Valley**



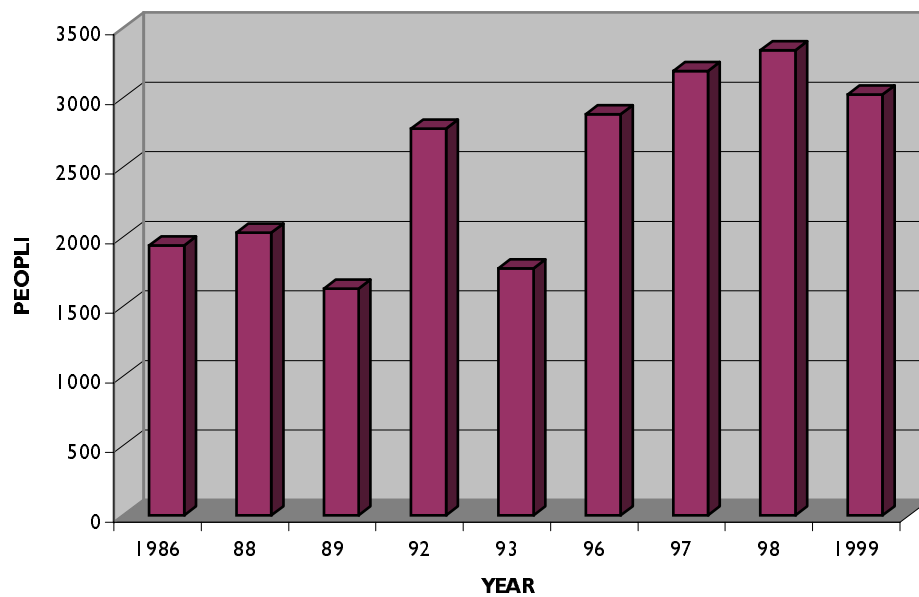
**Figure I.3. Hilton Lakes**



**Figure I.4. North Fork Lone Pine Creek**

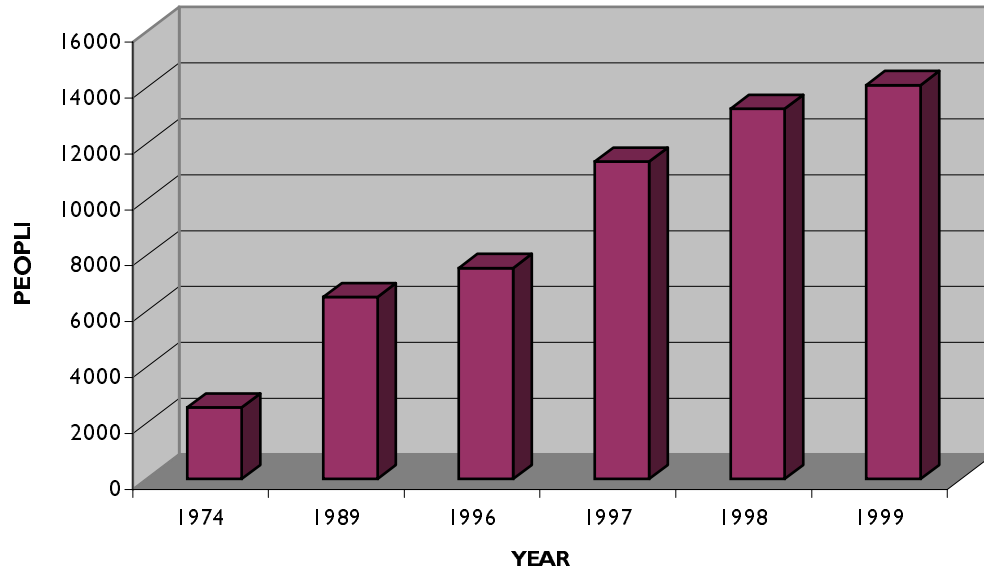


**Figure I-5 North Fork Big Pine Creek**

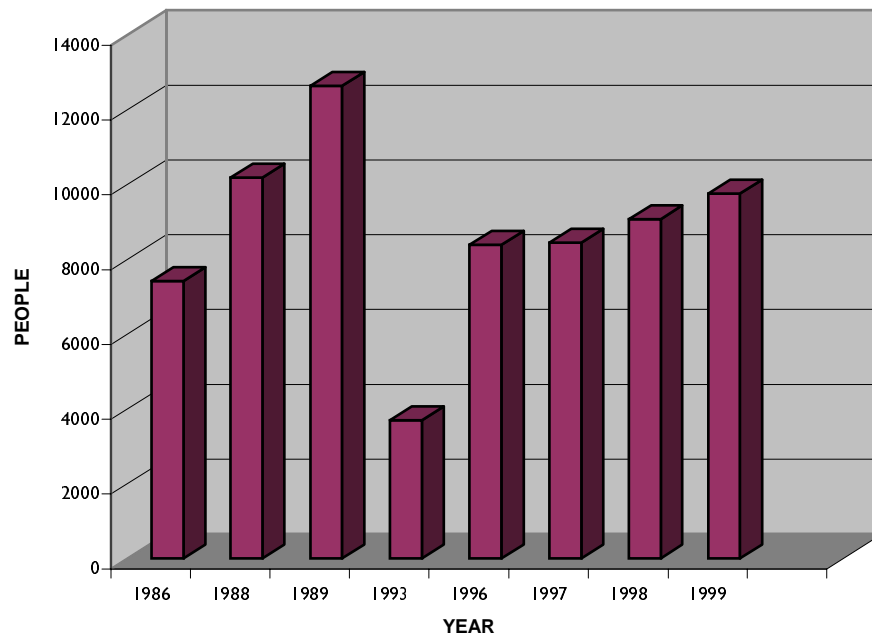




**Figure I.6. Mt. Whitney Day Hike**



**Figure I.7. Mt. Whitney Overnight**



**Table I.6.** Days Quota Was Reached 1996-1999

Trailhead	Quota	Number of days Quota was reached			
		1999	1998	1997	1996
Baxter Pass	15	1	2	1	0
Big Pine Cr.No.Fk.	24	34	9	32	36
Big Pine Cr.So.Fk.	12	10	0	17	11
Bishop Pass	36	34	30	33	31
Cottonwood Lakes	60	21	22	11	11
Cottonwood Pass	40	3	4	6	5
Deer Lakes	10	1	0	0	1
Duck Lake	40	1	0	1	2
Fern Lake	20	0	0	0	0
Fish Creek	25	0	0	0	0
Golden Trout Lakes	25	0	1	0	0
High PCT	25	0	11	8	5
Hilton Lakes	20	2	4	3	2
John Muir North	10	10	17	16	17
Kearsarge Pass	60	13	11	14	10
Lamarck Lakes	16	9	11	12	5
Little Lakes Valley	24	16	No Data	18	17
McGee Creek	24	1	1	4	6
Meysan Lakes	15	2	0	0	0
Minaret Lake	10	9	10	5	11
Mono Pass	24	10	12	16	6
Mt. Whitney	50	97	91	67	63
Mt. Whitney Day Hike	150	37	36	40	No Data
No Fk. Lone Pine Creek	15	70	67	53	54
Pine Creek Pass	20	10	11	13	15
Piute Pass	32	27	24	25	27
Red Cones	25	0	1	0	2
River Trail	35	7	3	6	6
Rush Creek	34	3	2	0	1
Sabrina Lake	28	15	19	16	No Data
Sawmill Pass	15	0	0	0	0
Shadow Lake	30	10	10	12	14
Shepherd Pass	15	16	7	1	14
Taboose Pass	15	5	2	0	6
Treasure Lakes	12	16	12	13	9

**Table I.7. Current Use by Trailhead – Commercial and Non-commercial**

For each trailhead, the highest use year from the last ten years of use was used for this table. This table was one set of data used to determine current levels of use for determining effects and comparisons with proposed quotas in the alternatives.

Wilderness	NF Admin	Trailhead	(Number of People)	
			Current Total (All Use)	Commercial Operators Current Level
JM	INF	Baker/Green	169	0
JM	INF	Baxter Pass	213	2
AA	INF	Beck Lake	281	146
JM	INF	Big Pine – NF	3,340	402
JM	INF	Big Pine – SF	654	15
JM	INF	Birch Lake	50	3
JM	INF	Bishop Pass	4,007	306
AA	INF	Bloody Canyon	121	0
JM	INF	Convict Lake	417	8
JM	INF	Cottonwood Lakes	5,449	237
AA	INF	Deer Lake	137	20
JM	INF	Duck Lake	2,012	306
AA	INF	Fern Lake	391	71
AA	INF	Fern/Yost	47	14
AA	INF	Fish Creek	743	275
JM	INF	Gable Lakes	46	0
JM	INF	George Creek/Mt Williamson	38	0
AA	INF	Gibbs	51	114
AA	INF	Glacier Canyon	73	10
JM	INF	Golden Trout Lakes	161	3
AA	INF	High Trail (PCT)	1,989	446
JM	INF	Hilton Lakes/Creek	1,239	555
JM	INF	Horton Lakes	292	39
AA	INF	John Muir Trail, North	562	114
JM	INF	Kearsarge Pass	4,272	151
JM	INF	Lamarck Lakes	836	22
JM	INF	Laurel Lakes	150	39
JM	INF	Little Lakes Valley	2,254	55
JM	INF	McGee Creek	917	190
JM	INF	Meysan Lake	367	6
AA	INF	Minaret Lake	643	53
JM	INF	Mono Pass	1,945	425
JM	INF	Mt Whitney Day Hike	14,086	0
JM	INF	Mt Whitney Overnight	9,753	91

Wilderness	NF Admin	Trailhead	(Number of People)	
			Current Total (All Use)	Commercial Operators Current Level
JM	INF	North Fork Lone Pine Creek	2,334	93
AA	INF	Parker Creek	215	75
JM	INF	Pine Creek	1,597	433
JM	INF	Piute Pass	2,957	487
AA	INF	Red Cones	396	40
JM	INF	Red Lake	171	0
AA	INF	River Trail	1,975	107
AA	INF	Rush Creek	2,122	566
JM	INF	Sabrina Lake	2,098	260
JM	INF	Sawmill Pass	158	26
AA	INF	Shadow Lake	2,283	180
JM	INF	Shepherd Pass	833	95
JM	INF	Taboose Pass	419	33
JM	INF	Tamarack Lake	267	105
JM	INF	Treasure Lakes	550	30
JM	INF	Tuttle Creek	38	0
JM	INF	Tyee/George Lake	436	15
JM	INF	Valentine Lake	209	0
JM	SNF	Bear Creek/Bear Ridge	1,166	200
AA	SNF	Chiquito/Quartz	597	203
DL	SNF	Cliff Lake	519	111
JM	SNF	Crown/Rancheria	480	46
JM	SNF	Devils/Graveyard	1,049	202
AA	SNF	Fernandez	1,563	554
JM	SNF	Florence	2,031	149
AA	SNF	Isberg	1,056	325
AA	SNF	Jackass/Norris	708	391
AA	SNF	Mammoth	140	86
JM	SNF	Maxon	1,236	377
AA	SNF	Miller/Cassidy	104	30
JM	SNF	Mono	1,331	99
JM	SNF	Onion Springs	333	81
AA	SNF	Squaw Dome/South Fork/ Hell's ½ Acre/Logan Mdw.	100	84
AA	SNF	Walton	230	103
DL	SNF	Willow Mdw/Badger Flat	2,023	50
JM	SNF	Woodchuck	417	57

**Table I.8.** Actual Use and Allocated Use by Commercial Operator, Inyo National Forest

(Actual Use is based on the average of the highest two years of the past 5 years. All numbers are service days.)

Operator	Allocation	High Two
<b>Pack Stock Supported Overnight Use</b>		
Bishop Pack Outfitters	1,200 *	1,082
Cottonwood Pack Station	250*	261
Frontier Pack Trains	2,685	1,881
Glacier Pack Train	770 *	640
McGee Creek Pack Station	2,000 *	636
Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit	2,087	1,731
Mt. Whitney Pack Trains	200*	156
Pine Creek Pack Station	900*	666
Rainbow Pack Station	465	466
Reds Meadow Pack Station	3,100	3,005
Rock Creek Pack Station	3,800	2,308
Sequoia/Kings Pack Station	775	263
3 Corner Round	200*	119
<b>Pack Supported Day Use</b>		
Bishop Pack Outfitters	*	259
Cottonwood Pack Station	*	23
Frontier Pack Station	850	0
Glacier Pack Train	*	90
McGee Creek Pack Station	*	641
Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit	600	630
Mt. Whitney Pack Trains	*	Not avail.
Pine Creek Pack Station	*	113
Rainbow Pack Station	116	114
Reds Meadow Pack Station	3,100	3,005
Rock Creek Pack Station	600	398
Sequoia/Kings Pack Trains	25	27
Sierra Meadows**	2,000	96
<b>Mtn. Guiding/Winter Guiding</b>		
Sierra Mountain Center	365	346
Alpine Skills International	395	302
American Alpine Institute	180	193
Yosemite Guides	190	76
Jackson Hole Mtn. Guide	180	64
Sierra Mtn. Guides	115	186
Sierra Wilderness Seminars	170	162
Sky's the Limit	15	13
Yosemite Mountaineering School	100	20
Sierra Mountaineering Int'l	311	322
Pacific Crest Outward Bound	199	199
<b>Backpacking</b>		
Adventure 16	243	242
Arnot Expeditions	118	111
Call of the Wild	89	132

Operator	Allocation	High Two
SNP Natuureizen	65	65
Mtn. Adventures	20	15
Rainbow Expeditions	38	38
Sea and Summit	141	128
Sierra Club	1,200	1,200
UCSD	190	144
<b>Day Hiking</b>		
REI	50	49

*\* Allocation is not differentiated between day and overnight use. Not all operators have day ride allocations or actual use records.*

*\*\* Sierra Meadows Resort currently has 2,000 service days allocated for use inside and outside of the wilderness. They have small amount of actual use service days as they primarily served areas outside of wilderness. It is now undergoing a change in ownership. In the environmental analysis to issue a new permit, an alternative is proposed which does not authorize any use in the wilderness and a no action alternative that proposes no change in existing allocations.*

Note: The last fifteen operators on this list were given allocations for the 1999-operating season, based on the high two or the high one.



**Table I.9.** Allocation and Actual Service Days by Operator, Sierra National Forest

<b>Operator</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>High Two</b>
<b>Pack Stock Supported Overnight Use</b>		
<b>High Sierra Pack Station</b>	1,300	893*
<b>D &amp; F Pack Station</b>	500	407*
<b>Clyde Pack Outfit</b>	600	587
<b>Minarets Pack Station</b>		868
<b>Lost Valley Pack Station</b>	500	38
<b>Yosemite Trails Pack Trains</b>	**	**
<b>Nontraditional Pack Stock</b>		
<b>Ruby Ranch Llama Treks</b>	**	5
<b>High Sierra Pack Station</b>	200	157
<b>Pack Supported Day Use</b>		
<b>Muir Trail Ranch</b>	500	319
<b>High Sierra Pack Station</b>	500	100
<b>Backpacking</b>		
<b>Pacific Crest Outward Bound</b>	6,300	6,036
<b>California Outfitters</b>	**	73
<b>Emerald Cove Camp</b>	**	1,000
<b>Sierra Club</b>	**	2,146
<b>Skylake Yosemite Camp</b>	**	337
<b>Southern Yosemite Mountain Guides</b>	**	1,177
<b>Summit Adventures</b>	**	1,218
<b>Credited Educational</b>		
<b>UC Santa Cruz</b>	**	217
<b>Azusa Pacific</b>	**	865

\* High one year – 1999 was the first year service days were reported.

\*\* Yosemite Trails Pack Station – insufficient data to make determination for high two (no data reported in 1998 or 1999). No allocations identified for all other operators.

**Table I.10a.** Allocation and Actual Use by Commercial Activity (*East side entry*)

Activity	Current SD Allocation	Actual SD Use
<b>Packstock supported</b>	18,432	13,214
<b>Backpacking</b>	2,104	2,075
<b>Mountain Guiding / Winter guiding</b>	2,218	1,883
<b>Day hiking</b>	50	49
<b>Day rides</b>	7,291*	5,396
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,095</b>	<b>22,617</b>

\*Only 6 of the 10 pack stations have specific day ride service day allocations. There is also a resort that offers 2000 service days inside **and** outside of the wilderness.

**Table I.10b.** Allocation and Actual Use by Commercial Activity (*West side entry*)

Activity	Current SD Allocation	Actual SD Use
<b>Packstock supported</b>	2,900**	2,793*
<b>Backpacking</b>	6,300**	11,987
<b>Credited educational</b>	0**	1,082
<b>Nontraditional Packstock</b>	200	162
<b>Day Rides</b>	1,000	419
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,400</b>	<b>16,443</b>

\* Day rides and non-traditional stock originally all in this category. It is now displayed separately.

\*\* Displays allocations for those operators that have service day allocations identified on their special use permits or in their operating plans.

Note: Actual SD allocation is determined by using the high two out of the last five years' use, when the data is available. If only one year of data was available, then it was used to determine actual use.

